

U.S. Serial No. 10/707,367
Examiner: Lars A. Olson
Art Unit: 3617

Atty. Dkt.: JD-294-US

IN THE CLAIMS

Please make the following amendments to the indicated claims:

1. (Original) A self-erecting and debris collecting device comprising:
a base member constructed to rest on a surface;
a gas generating member;
an inflatable member in fluid communication with the gas generating element;
and
a signal member which is erected by the inflatable member, the signal member constructed and arranged to provide a receptacle for debris.
2. (Original) A device of Claim 1 wherein the inflatable member is in the signal member.
3. (Original) A device of Claim 1 wherein the signal member is connected to the inflatable member.
4. (Currently Amended) A device of Claim 1 wherein the signal member is a flexible, expandable, pyramidal blanket overlying the base member.
5. (Currently Amended) A device of Claim 1 wherein the base member includes a liquid absorbent material.
6. (Original) A device of Claim 1 wherein the gas generating member includes a sachet of dry gas generating powders and a sachet of water.
7. (Currently Amended) A device of Claim 1 wherein the signal member is connected to the base member and an apex of the inflatable member and rises over the base member on inflation of the inflatable member.

U.S. Serial No. 10/707,367
Examiner: Lars A. Olson
Art Unit: 3617

Atty. Dkt.: JD-294-US

8. (Original) The device of Claim 1 wherein the receptacle includes an opening extending over a portion of the base member.

9. (Original) The device of Claim 8 wherein the base member includes a beveled edge positioned adjacent the opening.

10. (Original) The device of Claim 1 wherein the signal member includes a handle.

11. (Previously Presented) The device of Claim 1 wherein the signal member is expanded to a pyramidal configuration.

12. (Original) A self-erecting and debris collecting device comprising:
a signal member, the signal member constructed and arranged to provide a receptacle for debris;
an inflatable member, the signal member connected to the inflatable member;
a self-contained expandable member, the inflatable member constructed and arranged to be inflated by the self-contained expandable member; and
a base member, the inflatable member connected to the base member.

13. (Original) The device of Claim 12 wherein the base member includes an absorbent member constructed and arranged to absorb liquid and spills on a surface.

14. (Previously Presented) The device of Claim 12 wherein the expandable member includes an expandable system comprised of a liquid and an expandable member which expands when contacted with the liquid, the liquid and expandable members being separated by a breachable member to provide contact between the liquid and the expandable member.

15. (Original) The device of Claim 14 wherein the liquid is water and the expandable member is a sponge.

U.S. Serial No. 10/707,367
Examiner: Lars A. Olson
Art Unit: 3617

Atty. Dkt.: JD-294-US

16. (Original) The device of Claim 12 wherein the expandable member includes water and a first material and second material which when mixed with the water react to produce a gas, the materials being separated by a breachable member.

17. (Original) The device of Claim 16 wherein the inflatable member is comprised of a gas impervious flexible material.

18. (Original) The device of Claim 16 wherein the inflatable member is a latex balloon.

19. (Original) The self-erecting device as defined in Claim 16 wherein the inflatable member comprises gas impervious material and wherein the inflatable member has a tubular configuration when inflated.

20. (Original) The device of Claim 19 wherein the signal member includes warning indicia.

21. (Original) A method of cleaning up a spill and debris on a floor while signaling the spill employing the device of Claim 1.

22. (Original) A method of cleaning up a spill and debris on a floor while signaling its location employing the device of Claim 12.